

## Mansfield Businesses Invited to Participate in 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebrate Mansfield Festival

Sunday, September 18

July 7, 2016 – The Mansfield Downtown Partnership invites Mansfield-located businesses and community organizations to participate in the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebrate Mansfield Festival on Sunday, September 18.

The Celebrate Mansfield Festival, the largest community event in town, highlights the people, businesses, and organizations that make Mansfield a unique place to live, work, and learn. Last year's event featured nearly 100 booths hosted by local schools and clubs, student organizations, and businesses. Over 4,000 people participated in the event, which is held annually on the Mansfield Town Square.

There are several ways in which Mansfield residents, businesses, and organizations can participate, including hosting an Activity Booth or Food Booth, being a Sponsor, marching in the Parade, or volunteering during the event. Details about each option are available on the Festival website: <a href="mailto:downtownstorrsfestival.org">downtownstorrsfestival.org</a>.

The Mansfield Downtown Partnership hosted the first Festival in 2003 as a way to bring residents of the Town of Mansfield together with UConn students, faculty, and staff for a day that celebrates the best of Mansfield including activities, food, games, music, entertainment, and art while promoting Storrs Center.

In addition to its focus on Mansfield, the Festival is unique in its emphasis on activity booths and its low-waste goals. Activity booths offer free, hands-on fun for all ages and interests while also helping to reduce the amount of waste generated by the event. With the help of the Town of Mansfield's Recycling Coordinator and cooperation from participants and visitors alike, the Partnership seeks to minimize the total amount of waste and maximize the amount of waste that can be recycled or composted.

The deadline to sign up for an Activity Booth or a Food Booth is Friday, August 5. To be a Sponsor, businesses should contact the Mansfield Downtown Partnership by Friday, July 22. More information is available at the Festival <u>website</u> or by contacting the Partnership (860.429.2740 or <u>mdp@mansfieldct.org</u>).